

RESOLUTION NO. 1553

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
FIFE, PIERCE COUNTY, EXPRESSING THE COUNCIL'S  
STRONG SUPPORT OF A 2013 TRANSPORTATION  
INVESTMENT PACKAGE

WHEREAS, a healthy transportation system is a critical foundation of our state and local economies and our quality of life, as well as our global position as the nation's most trade-dependent state; and

WHEREAS, Washington state's transportation system is suffering from disrepair, with a backlog of maintenance and preservation needs, and data showing that without any new investments, more than half the pavement on our state roads and highways will be in poor condition by 2023; and

WHEREAS, failing roads and bridges, congested highway corridors, and bottlenecked interchanges undermine the mobility of vehicles, buses, and freight-carriers to transport people and goods; and

WHEREAS, the Connecting Washington Task Force released a report in early 2012, identifying \$50 billion in unfunded transportation needs and recommending an investment of \$21 billion in state funding during the next 10 years for maintenance, preservation, and strategic investments; and

WHEREAS, investing in maintaining and upgrading our transportation system is a positive step the Legislature can take to catalyze construction jobs, enhance freight mobility for our Ports, and create a pathway for retaining and growing new jobs for key industry sectors; and

WHEREAS, through **SHB 1954**, **SHB 1955** and related bills, the 2013 Washington State Legislature is considering a 12-year, \$9.5 billion package of transportation infrastructure investments; and

WHEREAS, this package provides critical funding for key highway corridor projects throughout the state, especially the State Route 167/State Route 509 “Gateways” project which completes strategic corridors to connect to our Ports of Tacoma and Seattle and create tens of thousands of new jobs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fife has waited over a quarter of a century for completion of the SR-167 Corridor, and the transportation package currently under debate in the Legislature offers a prime opportunity to “finish what we’ve started”; and

WHEREAS, the lack of adequate transportation facilities in and around Fife has forced the diversion of trucks and freight to and from the Port of Tacoma onto local streets not designed for such traffic; and

WHEREAS, such diversion has resulted in ongoing impacts to the safety of our citizens and visitors competing for use of local streets and is causing the accelerated wear of said local streets at the expense of Fife taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the transportation package also provides a direct gas tax distribution that will provide new funding each year for cities such as Fife to help maintain local roadways and arterials and to leverage existing funding; and

WHEREAS, the package also includes local transportation financing options that cities and counties can submit to their voters for transportation improvements in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the transportation package additionally invests in grant programs that are vital for cities and counties, including the Transportation Investment Board (TIB), the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB), “Complete Streets,” Safe Routes to Schools, and Bicycle-Pedestrian Safety; and

WHEREAS, the package also includes direct funding allocations for transit agencies, including Pierce Transit, that would otherwise have to make drastic cuts in routes which carry people to work sites and serve local communities; and

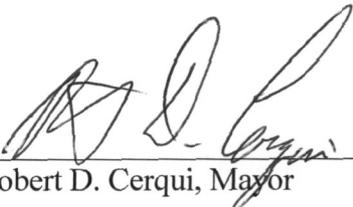
WHEREAS, the City of Fife strongly encourages the Washington State Legislature to enact a balanced transportation investment package, in Olympia, during the current Special Session to create jobs, relieve congestion, support our businesses, and maintain our quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIFE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Fife City Council strongly supports the enactment of a comprehensive transportation investment package, including direct funding and funding options for local governments.

Section 2. The Fife City Council strongly encourages lawmakers to approve and enact this package in Olympia during the current Special Session.

ADOPTED by the City Council at an open public meeting held on the 28<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2013.

  
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Robert D. Cerqui, Mayor

Attest:

  
for Carol Etgen, City Clerk